

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 17363 111941Z

73

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00 DLOS-04

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 ERDA-05 FMC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 IO-10 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01

OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

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R 111929Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6421

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY OSLO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 17363

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, IC, UK

SUBJECT: UK/ICELAND FISHERIES NEGOTIATIONS

REF: LONDON 1439L

1. SENIOR UK MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD (MAFF) OFFICIALS WENT TO REYKJAVIK NOVEMBER 4 AND 5 TO DISCUSS "SCIENTIFIC" ASPECTS OF PROPOSED FISHERIES AGREEMENT. MAFF OFFICIALS STATED INFORMAL MEETINGS WERE DESIGNED TO LAY FOUNDATION "FOR HOPED FOR" MEETING BETWEEN MINISTER OF STATE HATTERSLEY AND ICELANDIC FORNMIN AGUSTSSON OVER WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 15-16

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PAGE 02 LONDON 17363 111941Z

2. MAFF OFFICIAL STATED IT WAS "REALLY IMPOSSIBLE FOR

THOSE WHO WANT TO KNOW IF TALKS WERE USEFUL OR NOT."
HE ADDED THAT UK FEELS IT HAS MADE SATISFACTORY GESTURES
TO ENSURE CONTINUATION OF NEGOTIATIONS. HE ASCRIBED
RADICAL AND PESSIMISTIC PUBLIC STATEMENTS BY ICELANDIC
OFFICIALS TO AELTIC INFLUENCES IN THEIR BACKGROUND.
"THEY ARE LIKE WELSH ORATORS' PRONE TO GIVE WAY TO
VIOLENT PASSION IN PUBLIC SPEECH." HE ADDED THAT ATMOS-
PHERE AT THE INFORMAL TALKS WAS MUCH FRIENDLIER THAN
WAS TO BE SUPPOSED BY THE ICELANDIC PUBLIC STATEMENTS.
THIS FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE HAS LED HIM TO CONCLUDE THAT
ONLY SLIGHT STIFFENING OF WILL BY ICELANDIC MINISTERS
IS REQUIRED FOR THEM TO REACH AGREEMENT AND FACE WHAT
APPEARS TO HIM TO BE MANAGEABLE AMOUNT OF PUBLIC
OUTCRY.

RICHARDSON

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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